

SIGNS OF JESUS' RETURN

INTRO

The horrific events that took place on September 11, 2001 have left us all saddened, mourning, and, yes, angry, and many suddenly seeking answers. We have a source of comfort and wisdom we can turn to today and everyday. Those who died that day – their world as they know it came to an end. None could have imagined what awaited them. But we can know for certainty that whatever we face – the Lord will help us. As Christians we have the supreme hope, even if we face death, that to be absent from the Body is to be present with the Lord.

This is an hour and moment where we need some clarity to what does all this mean. Is this the beginning of the end? Is this the great Battle of Armageddon.

Jesus said He is coming again, when He does it will be at the Battle of Armageddon. He said there would be a generation that would not pass away, but would be alive to see all the physical signs that point to His physical return. The Bible also says there is a generation singled out in the Church who would be different from any other generation in that they would not see death, but will be alive to be taken from earth in an event called the Rapture. They are the “exception generation” the exception to, “...it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment,” Hebrews 9:27. This generation that would see the signs of Jesus' Second Coming. The final generation of the Church would see some of the same signs.

I. Nine Signs.

- A. Sign #1 – Israel return to its land and Israel blossoming as a nation Ezekiel 36:20-24; Jeremiah 16:14,15; Amos 9:14,15; Matthew 24:32; Luke 21:29-33.
- B. Sign #2 – Jerusalem being reclaimed Luke 21:29-33.
- C. Sign #3 – An existence of a great Northern power poised to attack Israel Ezekiel 38; 39.
- D. Sign #4 – A great Eastern power or power existing in the Far East Revelation 9:14-16; 16:12-14; Daniel 11:44 – prediction in vision from the East and North.
- E. Sign #5 – An economic system power arising out of the region of the Great Roman Empire – European Union Daniel 7:3-8; Revelation 17:10-12.
- F. Sign #6 – An accelerated time of troubling world events Matthew 24:4-8.
- G. Sign #7 – Conditions similar to the days of Noah and the days of Lot Matthew 24:36-41; Romans 11:25.
- H. Sign #8 – Mocking; disbelief; error of the wicked – general unawareness of His return Luke 21:34-36; 2 Peter 2; 3.
- I. Sign #9 – Knowledge increased in the earth Daniel 12:4.

II. What Should We Be Shaping Our Lifestyle Around?

- A. In prayer Luke 21:36 – watchful.
- B. In church Hebrews 10:25 – assembling.
- C. In harvest James 5:7,8 – patient and establish in heart.
- D. In holiness 2 Peter 3:1-3,11,14 – stirred and pure.
- E. In Word 2 Peter 3:17,18.